



County of Fairfax, Virginia

April 28, 2009

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf
United States House of Representatives
241 Cannon Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Wolf:

I am writing you to request your support for regional Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) study in the new Surface Transportation Authorization legislation. This project will lead to a system that will significantly reduce traffic congestion, improve the efficiency of the regional public transportation system, improve the economic conditions in the county and above all else result in cost effective mass transit for the region.

The pending completion of the Beltway HOT lanes project provides the Northern Virginia region with the potential for a critical north-south transit link in semi dedicated lanes at guaranteed speeds. For the first time in decades we will have the ability to provide BRT from the southern areas of Fairfax County and the region into one of our largest employment centers – Tysons and the Dulles Corridor - in a reliable, time advantaged basis. However, there are no concrete plans currently in place for mass transit in this corridor.

Planning studies are underway to look at BRT in corridors such as I-66 and the 395/95 corridors and decisions are beginning to be made on the next steps in others like the Route 28 corridor. Many of these reviews are proceeding without an overall look at how these corridors interconnect to get our citizens from residential areas to our employment centers. It is time for a Northern Virginia regional study of how to connect these corridors with BRT.

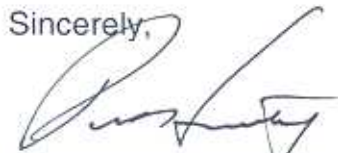
SUPERVISOR PAT HERRITY
SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
6140 Rolling Road
Springfield, VA 22152
703-451-8873 TTY 711 Fax 703-451-3047
Springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov

Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan provides the framework for the County's future public transportation network by designating a series of "Enhanced Public Transportation Corridors" which together with the existing Orange, Yellow, and Blue Metrorail lines, the future Silver Metrorail line, and the Manassas and Fredericksburg VRE lines could form a connected public transit system. Corridors designated as enhanced public transportation corridors include the Capital Beltway, I-66, I-95/I-395, Route 1, Route 28, Route 267, the Dulles Corridor, portions of Route 244, the Columbia Pike Corridor, and others. Accordingly, I am requesting for the citizens of Fairfax County funding of \$10,000,000 to plan an integrated BRT system as a cost effective way to interconnect the region's enhanced transportation corridors both within Fairfax County and the region.

In addition, major planning efforts are underway or about to get underway to determine the feasibility of increased levels of density in Tysons, Springfield, Annandale, Baileys Crossroads, the Dulles Corridor, and in close proximity to the BRAC relocations. In order to maintain a reasonable balance between land use and transportation in the County, Fairfax County needs to develop an overall vision for more robust interconnected regional BRT network prior to these land use decisions. This network will support future growth in the County and provide a feasible alternative to congested highway corridors.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at anytime.

Sincerely,



Pat Herrity, Supervisor
Springfield District
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

SUPERVISOR PAT HERRITY
SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
6140 Rolling Road
Springfield, VA 22152
703-451-8873 TTY 711 Fax 703-451-3047
Springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov